

ARNOLD FARM, BARN
1948 Arnold Road
Coupeville vicinity
Whidbey Island
Island County
Washington

HABS WA-244-A
WA-244-A

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ARNOLD FARM, BARN

HABS No. WA-244-A

Location: Whidbey Island, Island County, Washington

Present Owner: Charles Arnold and Family LLC

Present Use: Agriculture

Significance: With the passing of the Donation Land Claim Act in 1850, Congress agreed to grant land in the Oregon Territory to American settlers willing to farm it. It was during this time when settlement of Central Whidbey Island accelerated, and when Major Daniel Show staked his claim on 320 acres in the San de Fuca Uplands. Not much is known about this land in the fifty years following Show's claim; but in 1907 the land was purchased by another early settler to the region, Alanson W. Arnold. The Arnold family has now continually owned this land for 100 years. As farming science and technology advanced, so did the landscape of the Arnold farm. What started as a diversified farm raising grain, potatoes, pigs, chickens, and cows primarily to fit the needs of the family, transitioned into sheep herds raised for meat and wool, and later into hogs and cattle reared for slaughter. The fields, first cultivated by horse and man, later saw the development of threshing machines, combines, and tractors.

All the buildings remaining on the site today were built during the twentieth century, including the barn, which was constructed in 1918. This barn illustrates a key transitional period for construction techniques in the area. It combines the heavy-timber construction of the late nineteenth century with the light plank frame construction seen in the area after World War I. Also, this farm complex as a whole illustrates the cluster plan layout indicative of farms throughout Central Whidbey Island.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of construction: 1918
2. Carpenter: Charles Ehrnfelt¹
3. Original owner: Daniel Show, Donation Land Claim
4. Subsequent owners: The property is also known as the "Maddox Claim" after the Widow Maddox who claimed the land on November 16, 1855.² It is unclear who owned the land from this time until 1907 when Alanson Warner Arnold purchased forty acres. It has remained in the Arnold family ever since, passing first to Frederick Edward Arnold in 1912, and to Charles Edward Arnold in 1938.
5. Original plans and construction: The Arnold barn was built as a two-story barn of timber construction with a gambrel roof. It maintains its original dimensions of 72'-9" x 48'-5". The ground floor is divided into five bays and has been used for machinery, equipment, and produce storage, along with housing horse pens and milking stanchions. The plank frame construction seen in the braced rafters of the hayloft allows for an open plan on the second floor.
6. Alterations and additions: Frederick Edward Arnold moved the north façade of the barn and its two sliding doors to the north face of bay three. This allowed the northern-most end of the barn to serve as machine storage.³

B. Historical Context:

"From A.D. 1300 until white settlements in the 1850s, Salish villagers occupied Whidbey and Camano Islands. When the whites arrived, four groups of Salish Indians – the Skagit, Snohomish, Kikialos, and Clallam – shared the island."⁴ These groups are classified as saltwater or canoe Indians, and they built three permanent villages along Penn Cove on Whidbey Island. Their lifestyle and settlement patterns relied heavily on salmon, although they also hunted and gathered berries and roots. Along with salmon, their diets consisted of: steelhead, rainbow trout, shellfish,

¹ Other possible spelling: "Earnfelt"

² Jimmie Jean Cook, A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove: A History of the Settlers, Claims and Buildings of Central Whidbey Island (Coupeville, WA: Island County Historical Society, 1973), 75.

³ Charles and Frederick Arnold, Oral interview conducted by Anne E. Kidd (San de Fuca, WA: 8 March 2007), 00:12:30.

⁴ Richard White, Land Use, Environment, and Social Change: The Shaping of Island County, Washington (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1980), 14.

cattail, salmonberries, strawberries, camas, wild carrots, rose hips, bracken ferns, acorns, hazelnuts, crab apples, elk and deer.⁵

Before white explorers reached the area, the Salish did not cultivate the prairies of Central Whidbey Island, but rather manipulated them to fit their needs. They repeatedly burned the prairie lands and into the surrounding woods. This encouraged the growth of bracken and camas in the prairie, and renewed undergrowth in the woods that became habitat for game animals.⁶ The Salish Indians also used the forest wood to build their canoes and villages.⁷

Captain George Vancouver carried out the first effective European exploration of Central Whidbey Island, claiming it for the British Empire on June 4, 1792.⁸ In 1833 the Hudson Bay Company explored Whidbey Island in search of game to trap and hunt, and in 1839 the first missionaries reached Whidbey Island.⁹ By this time, after contact with sailors, hunters, trappers, and missionaries, Native populations in the area were devastated by smallpox and syphilis.¹⁰ By the 1850s syphilis was credited with a hundred deaths in the Puget Sound area every year. And in 1852 and 1853 the last great smallpox epidemic to strike the area was credited with taking the lives of entire villages.¹¹

Along with disease, the white explorers and settlers brought potatoes to the area. Although its origin in the area is unknown, by 1830 the British at Fort Nisqually recognized potatoes as a staple in the economy and diet of the Salish villages.¹² The potato's easy growing cycle and high production brought the Salish Indians to first cultivate the prairies of Central Whidbey.¹³ This cultivation was documented and continued by the first American settlers to the area. Within a few years most Native Americans had moved on to the reservation in La Conner and by 1904 only a few Salish families remained in Central Whidbey Island.¹⁴

In 1850 the United States Congress passed the Donation Land Claim (DLC) Act which accelerated settlement of Central Whidbey Island, Washington. Settlers that were compliant with certain conditions¹⁵ were granted 320 acres if single, or 640 acres if married. Colonel Isaac Neff Ebey was the first to stake a DLC in Central Whidbey Island. On October 15, 1850, Ebey claimed "640 acres on the rich black loam of the prairie that now bears his name."¹⁶

⁵ Land Use, 17-18.

⁶ Ibid., 20-21.

⁷ Ibid., 16. "In each village a single row of three to five large cedar houses, together with smaller buildings, faced the water with the forest looming at their backs. Often from 100 to 200 feet long, these buildings normally housed several families who partitioned the interiors into separate living quarters."

⁸ A Particular Friend, 11.

⁹ Ibid., 11-13.

¹⁰ Land Use, 26-29.

¹¹ Ibid., 27.

¹² Ibid., 32.

¹³ Ibid., 33.

¹⁴ Mimi Sheridan, *How Coupeville Grew: A Short History of Town Development: Excerpts from the Town of Coupeville's Historic Preservation Plan*, (Coupeville, WA: McConnell/Burke, Inc., 1998), 7.

¹⁵ Conditions included: age, sex, nationality, and race, along with the date of arrival in the area, and the agreement to cultivate the land for four years.

¹⁶ A Particular Friend, 19.

In the early 1850s, Major Daniel Show claimed 320 acres of prairie in the San de Fuca Uplands overlooking Penn Cove. It is unclear how the land was used in the years following Show's DLC, but in 1855 the widow Rebecca Maddox claimed the land.¹⁷

Alanson Warner Arnold left New York City in 1852 and sailed for Panama. When the narrowing waters forced the ship to stop, he walked the remaining distance across the country, arriving on the Pacific Coast barefoot, having worn through his shoes. He and his fellow emigrants boarded a clipper ship heading to California, only to have it becalmed four hundred miles out to sea for three weeks. After starvation and malnutrition began to take lives aboard the clipper, the passengers mutinied and found stores of water and meat. Renourished and set into motion again by a violent storm, they arrived in San Francisco in May of 1852.¹⁸

During the years of the American Civil War, A.W. Arnold migrated north to Whidbey Island, and in 1865 he married a Coupeville resident, Phebe A. Carleton. Their first child, Frederick Edward Arnold was born in San de Fuca in 1874, and in 1907 the Alanson Arnold family bought forty acres of the original Show DLC. Alanson began farming. He planted an orchard of cherry, prune, and pear trees,¹⁹ and built a small barn, granary, and chicken house. He kept horses and raised grain and potatoes.²⁰

On June 22, 1910, Alanson's son, Frederick, married Dorothea Grasser, and in 1912, after Alanson's death, the farm passed to the next generation of Arnolds. Frederick and his brother, Henry, ran a "diversified farm" – raising grain, potatoes, pigs, chickens, and cows and keeping three workhorses.²¹ Farming involved "a lot of footwork"²² – plowing was done by horse and man one furrow at a time. In the years between 1912-23, they planted potatoes with a "potato planter" pulled by horses. They harvested them by hand with a potato hook and hauled their grain and potatoes to the San de Fuca docks by horse and wagon to be shipped off island.²³ At this time and until the mid 1940s, the Arnolds also raised a herd of fifty sheep, selling the lambs for meat. Every April the wool was sheared and shipped to Seattle; in the early years migrant Native Americans traveled across the island and sheared.²⁴

On February 20, 1916, Charles Edward Arnold was born in San de Fuca to Frederick and Dorothea. Two years later the barn that stands today was built by local carpenter, Charles Ehrnfelt and two cisterns were dug to collect rainwater from the barn roof. The barn was built to accommodate equipment and machinery on the ground floor, along with pens for the horses and six stanchions for milking cows. The loft was used to store loose hay. The Arnolds had a sling system not common to the area²⁵ that they used to load the hay into the loft. During an interview with Charles Arnold, he explained the workings of the slings.

¹⁷ A Particular Friend, 75.

¹⁸ Ibid., 75.

¹⁹ Arnold oral interview, 00:39:50.

²⁰ Ibid., 00:02:35.

²¹ Judy Lynn, Charles Arnold Remembers: Growing up in San de Fuca, Whidbey Island, WA, (Oral Interview Transcription, 2001), 15, 67.

²² Ibid., 84.

²³ Ibid., 69.

²⁴ Ibid., 15, 65, Appendix – Item 5.

²⁵ Arnold oral interview, 00:51:20. Most other farms in the area were using a fork system, but Charles Arnold thinks it wasn't as accurate. He said, with the sling system, "you'd cleaned the wagon in three picks – got even the smaller stuff. [The] forks left small stuff that had to be pitched off the wagon and wasted."

“[We] had three sets of slings, you’d lay one down on the wagon, and cover it with hay so deep. And then you’d put another one on, [and] cover it up [with hay]. Then you’d put the third one on and cover it up [with hay]...then when you’d unload it, why they’d just hooked the thing together to pick that whole thing up and take it in and dump it in the barn – that was loose hay.”²⁶

He continued by explaining that the slings attached to a track that ran along the peak of the roof. Using a team of horses on the opposite side of the barn, the slings were pulled along the track and lowered to the wagon full of hay. When the slings were full, the horses would again move to raise the hay-filled slings into the barn, where they were emptied and the hay distributed around the loft.²⁷

In the early part of the twentieth century, local San de Fuca farmer Ed Armstrong, owned a stationary “thrasher”²⁸ which traveled every fall from farm to farm to thresh the local fields. Threshing was a community effort, and a big event for the hosting farm family. Farmers grouped together to work on each other’s land; each brought a team of horses and wagon to their neighbor’s fields in exchange for three meals a day prepared by the farmer’s family. There was an unspoken competition between the farm wives to prepare the best meal. The thrasher stayed occupied at the Arnold farm for two days each August.²⁹ In a 2001 interview with Judy Lynn, Charles Arnold explained the process of threshing. He explained:

“They would have what they would call a ‘pitcher,’ a guy that throwed [sic] the bundles up...they would come with a team of horses, and a wagon and drive up to the shock, and then the pitcher would put the bundles individually on the wagon and then the man on the wagon would place them so he’d make a load out of it...”³⁰ The thrashing machine was stationary. There was usually three or four wagons when they were working and then one would drive up to the thrashing machine after he got his load on, and then he would pitch the bundles into the thrashing machine, while the other three wagons were loading...and then when he was done, there’d be somebody else come in and take his place and he’d go back out to get another load...”³¹ When the bundles went into...[the] chain carrier...they’d go by these knives and the knives would cut the bands. [Next] the ‘separator’ would go through a series of teeth and that would knock the grain out of the heads [of the shocks] and...onto some screens...[T]he screens were shaking so the grain would fall through and then there was a fan under there that would blow the chaff out, so the clean grain would drop through and the chaff would blow out,³² and then they had what they called a ‘blower’ at the back end of the machine and that would blow the straw and the chaff all out into a big pile...and the clean grain would come out into a chute. The ‘puncher’

²⁶ Arnold oral interview, 00:51:20.

²⁷ Ibid., 00:51:20.

²⁸ The machine is actually a “thresher”, but common colloquialism is to pronounce the name of the machine as “thrasher” and the process as “thrashing”.

²⁹ Charles Arnold Remembers, 73-77.

³⁰ There were about 50 shocks per load.

³¹ Charles Arnold Remembers, 74. In the early days of threshing, one worker was the “bundle cutter.” He used a “band cutter” to cut open the string on each bundle when they were thrown onto the machine’s conveyor belt, and then push the grain into the thresher. Later the threshing machines had a “self feeder.”

³² Ibid. The chaff was collected and sent off the island, and mostly used for bedding. What wasn’t collected was burned in the field.

would fill the sacks and then he sent 'em over to a guy that was sitting there and he was the 'sack sewer'... 150 pounds. He'd stack the sacks on the ground and it'd grow into a pile that was eventually hauled into the granary.'³³

In 1923, the family bought their first tractor, a Ford Fordson, which was delivered by ship to the San de Fuca docks. During the following years, farming across the island began a transition period from workhorses to tractors. On the Arnold farm they divided the work according to ease of attaching the equipment. Plowing and seeding were done with horses, while disking was done with the tractor.³⁴

A new house was built on the property in 1927. Local builder, Rance Zylstra, constructed the house with the help of Bill Wieringen, Louie Robert, and Elmer Morris. The house was built with indoor plumbing, running water, and electricity. The woodshed/washroom building and milkroom adjacent to the house were also constructed at this time.³⁵ In the late 1920s Frederick also built a corral system northeast of the barn. It was originally constructed for sheep, but later was used for hogs and cattle.³⁶

The Great Depression that swept across the United States had little daily effect on the farming of Central Whidbey Island. In fact, the 1930s were years of expansion and growth on the Arnold farm. In the early 1930s, Frederick bought a poured concrete outhouse foundation from the Work Progress Administration crews working at Deception Pass on the North end of the island. In 1935, the original house on the property was torn down and the materials were reused to build the garage that sits in the same location. The slate roof on the garage was purchased when Fort Casey closed in the same year, and has remained on the building ever since.³⁷

In 1935, Charles finished school and began farming full time with his father. In 1937 Charles and Bob Hancock, a neighboring farmer, bought the first combined harvester (combine) on the island for between \$800.00-\$900.00. It was instantly put into competition against the threshing machines, and continually won. In the first year, Charles and Bob Hancock earned enough money from combining on their neighbor's fields to cover its purchase price.³⁸ However, when Frederick Arnold died the next year of a sudden heart attack, Charles gained ownership of the farm and sold his share of the combine back to Bob Hancock. During this same year Charles built the tool shop with help from the Benson brothers, Billie and Sam, the local hotel owners. They reused materials from the newly demolished top floor of the Benson Hotel.³⁹ Charles made extra money in 1940, when he bought his own combine and was paid to work on the neighboring farms.⁴⁰

Charles was married to Viola Miller Sloth, a San de Fuca native, in 1941 and their first child, Frederick Charles Arnold, was born in June of the next year. The 1940s proved to be a period of expansion and experimentation on the Arnold farm. Not only did Charles begin a family, but also in 1943 he purchased 600 acres, the original I.B. Power DLC.⁴¹ In the mid 1940s, George Keiter began leasing land on the Arnold property to use as an airplane runway. Soon after, Vern Buehr,

³³ Charles Arnold Remembers, 73-74.

³⁴ Ibid., 84.

³⁵ Ibid., 28-29.

³⁶ Arnold oral interview, 00:36:00.

³⁷ Charles Arnold Remembers, 28-29, 103; and Arnold oral interview, 00:08:15, 00:37:50.

³⁸ Charles Arnold Remembers, 76.

³⁹ Ibid., 103-104.

⁴⁰ Ibid., 70.

⁴¹ Ibid., 80-82.

took over the lease and built two hangers and a fuel shed, offering flying lessons to the local community.⁴² The Arnold family continued growing in 1945 when Valerie Evelyn was born on March 8.

In the late 1940s, a new granary was constructed for the Arnolds through a community effort. Charles moved the granary built by his grandfather to the property formerly owned by the Power family and used its foundation for the new building. Mr. Tesch and his son laid the bricks; Rance Zylstra and his nephew constructed the rafters; and Jack Sullivan sheathed and shingled the building.⁴³ Doubling the size of its predecessor, the granary was designed to hold sacked grain from the combine. About 1955, when farmers began to use bulk combines, bins were constructed inside the granary and the grain was stored unsacked. At this time, Charles also bought two silos for bulk grain, and built the chicken house across the drive from the granary.⁴⁴

Glenn Lynch, a family friend, joined the Arnold farm in 1948 as the first full-time hired help.⁴⁵ In the early 1950s he helped Charles build an additional garage near the house.⁴⁶ It was during this time that the airplane business left the Arnold property. Charles converted the hangers into a workshop and equipment shed. He roofed over the space between the buildings and it became parking for his combine.⁴⁷ It was also during the early 1950s when Valerie watched her father in the barn milking cows by hand. In a 2001 interview with Judy Lynn Valerie recalled the event.

“He would sit on the stool and put his head against the side of the cow to keep her from moving. In the summertime there were lots of flies in the barn and the cow would want to swat the flies with her tail, so dad would tuck the tip of the tail under his knee so she wouldn’t flick her tail.”⁴⁸

After milking, Charles carried the milk by hand to the milkroom where it was strained; Viola Arnold churned the cream into butter.⁴⁹

Beginning in the 1960s, Charles raised hogs in the woods north of the farm buildings. He kept twenty-five sows, two boars, and raised two litters each year. The hogs were fed a combination of grain, barley, oats, wheat, and peas, which were all grown on the Arnold farm. At six months old the piglets averaged 200 pounds, an ideal weight for price ratio. They were shipped to market off the island. Raising hogs ceased on the property in the 1980s after both Charles and Glenn Lynn started showing signs of emphysema from the dust produced while grinding grain for feed.⁵⁰

The early 1960s also brought turkeys to the Arnold farm. The Sherman family, local turkey farmers, leased land on the Arnold property to graze their turkeys. After they moved their turkeys off the farm, a cluster of lean-tos, used to provide the turkeys with protection from the elements, remained in the Arnold’s fields. Charles dismantled these lean-tos and built himself a tractor shed

⁴² Charles Arnold Remembers, 100-101; and Arnold oral interview, 00:14:52.

⁴³ Charles Arnold Remembers, 99.

⁴⁴ Arnold oral interview, 00:36:00.

⁴⁵ Lynch stayed employed with the Arnolds for 40 years – not leaving until Charles stopped farming in 1989.

⁴⁶ Arnold oral interview, 00:07:10.

⁴⁷ Ibid., 00:13:55.

⁴⁸ Charles Arnold Remembers, 42.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Arnold oral interview, 00:32:15.

out of the material.⁵¹ Later that decade, Charles began raising Hubbard squash⁵² and sold it to the Associated Grocers in Seattle. Charles and Coupeville area farmer, Gus Reuble, who also grew Hubbard squash, alternated trips to Seattle to deliver the squash. The squash was harvested in the fall and stored in two buildings at the former Power property through winter.⁵³

Viola Evelyn Arnold died on February 13, 1976. The next year Charles married Constance Augusta Keister Lang. A few years later the farm's focus changed from hogs to cattle. Charles raised a mixture of Hereford and Angus cattle. At two years old, the cows were taken to the stockyards for slaughter and sold for beef.⁵⁴

In the mid 1980s, the farmhouse kitchen was remodeled and a gable-roofed punch out was added to the west kitchen entrance.⁵⁵ In 1989, after undergoing a heart operation, Charles ceased farming. The land was then leased to a local dairy owned by the Engle family, and the fields were used to grow hay and grain.⁵⁶ In 2005, Valerie Evelyn Arnold passed away, and that same year Charles Arnold moved off the farm, leaving it vacant.

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This barn illustrates the early twentieth century transitional period between heavy-timber construction and plank frame construction. This barn is a hybrid of both construction types. Its ground floor is built with a heavy-timber post and beam system. However, its braced rafter roof system illustrates plank frame construction. Although updated and changed over the years, the original form and historic features are apparent.
2. Condition of fabric: Good. This barn has been heavily used by both livestock and farming equipment for almost eighty years. The wear of this use is evident in its flooring, cladding, stairs, and structural system. The second floor of the east wall was rebuilt in the late 1990s after it was "pushed out"⁵⁷ from excessive amounts of hay in the hayloft. The foundation is failing along the west wall and the structural system is pulling apart as the building continues to settle on its failing foundation.

B. Description of Exterior:

⁵¹ Arnold oral interview, (00:15:45).

⁵² Charles Arnold Remembers, 89. The squash was not a big money maker for the Arnolds, but was grown for the benefit of diversifying the fields.

⁵³ Ibid., 88-89.

⁵⁴ Arnold oral interview, 00:35:30.

⁵⁵ Ibid., 00:27:00.

⁵⁶ Ibid., 01:05:00.

⁵⁷ Ibid., 00:59:30.

1. Overall dimensions: 48'-5" x 72'-9"
2. Foundations: The barn structure was built with a board-formed concrete foundation wall.
3. Walls: All walls are made of 12" wide boards and 2-3/4" wide beveled battens – all are currently painted red.
4. Structural systems: The building has an exposed heavy-timber post and beam system on its ground floor. In the hayloft, 8" square beams with diagonal braces support 2" x 4" rafters spaced every 2'. The roof structure of the central space is a braced rafter plank frame system supporting the gambrel roof. Bays one, four, and five are covered with shed roof extensions, but the barn maintains one continual roofline.
5. Porches, stoops: A 4' x 8' wooden stoop is located at the sliding door in the southwest corner of the structure. A large stone that originally functioned as the landing at the entrance into the barn remains under the stoop.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors:

All the doors on the barn are operable by sliding metal tracks mounted to the exterior of the building. The doors are constructed of vertical boards and battens to match the exterior cladding of the building. They are reinforced with horizontal and diagonal bracing. There is no decorative trim around the door openings and they have flat doorframes.

There are six openings with hinged doors along the south façade. These 2' square doors sit under the window ledges and are hinged to open into the barn. These doors were used for the removal of manure from the horses and cows.

Additional openings allow access into the hayloft along the east and west walls. These openings are currently boarded up and it is unclear how their original access was controlled.
 - b. Windows: All the windows in the barn are unadorned. They are trimmed with 4" boards on the exterior that are painted white. The windows have no sills or frames. Mismatched single sashes are nailed into place and vary in shape and light configuration.
7. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: A gambrel roof with hayfork track projection over the west façade covers the barn. Shed extensions to the north and south cover bays one, four, and five. The continual roofline has an asymmetrical form. The barn is roofed with cedar shakes that were hand-split by Charles Arnold during the winters of 1961-65.⁵⁸
- b. Cornice, eaves: The roof has 4" fascia boards that run the length of the cornice. These boards are painted white. The gutters along the south and north eaves drain into cisterns.
- c. Cupola: The barn has a rectangular cupola centrally located on the gambrel roof ridge. The cupola has a hipped roof covered in cedar shakes with exposed rafter tails. On the sides of the cupola are openings with seven horizontal slats for ventilation.

C. Description of Interior:

- 1. Floor plans: See measured drawings HABS No. WA-244-A for complete plans of this barn. The barn has a rectangular floor plan and consists of five bays. The southern-most bay contains stairs to the hayloft, animal pens, metal chutes for grain sacking, and three milking stanchions. Bays two and three maintain an open plan and are used to house equipment. A cistern, 12' wide and 7' deep, is under the northeast corner of these bays. Bays four and five are used for large equipment storage. These bays sit at ground level without flooring. The hayloft runs the full length of bays two and three with additional floor space provided by the shed roofline to the south.
- 2. Stairways: Stairs that rise along the west wall of bay one provide access to the hayloft. The stairway consists of fourteen treads that measure 1' x 2' x 6".
- 3. Flooring: This barn has wood plank floors. In bay one the planks are 1' wide and spaced 1/4" apart. Additional flush floorboards were added ca. 1960 to a portion of bay one. This area served as space to sack cleaned grain that came from the cleaning mill in the hayloft. In the hayloft and in bays two and three on the first floor, the flooring is laid flush and varies in width. Bays four and five have no flooring.
- 4. Wall and ceiling finish: There is no finish on either the walls or ceiling. The posts, beams, joists, and rafters are all exposed.

⁵⁸

Arnold oral interview, 00:56:45.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors:

The original barn had two 13' wide sliding doors that opened along the exterior of the north façade. These doors and the entire north façade were moved to bay three by Frederick Edward Arnold. Like the other doors on the barn, these doors are constructed of vertical boards and battens to match the exterior cladding of the building. They are reinforced with horizontal and diagonal bracing.

6. Hardware:

The doors slide on metal tracks. The windows are fixed and have no hardware.

7. Mechanical equipment:

a. Lighting:

Evidence of an early twentieth century knob-and-tube wiring system is still extant. This system was installed in 1927.⁵⁹

b. Cleaning Mill:

Charles Arnold installed a grain Cleaning Mill ca.1960. It was housed in the hayloft and consisted of the mill, the grain elevator, the chaff chute, and metal funnels for bagging the cleaned grain. All parts remain except for the mill.

D. Site:

1. Historic landscape design:

The Arnold farm complex sits on a hill overlooking Penn Cove, northwest of Coupeville. The site is accessed off Arnold Road by a central concrete driveway running south to north. The complex is made up of the barn and twelve additional buildings, with an orchard, corral, hedgerow, and a system of dirt paths.

A one-and-a-half story bungalow sits along Arnold Road, to the east of the driveway. Local builder Rance Zylstra built the house in 1927 for the Frederick Edward Arnold family. Construction assistance was also given by Bill Van Wieringen, Louie Robart, and Elmer Morris. It is covered in cream-colored horizontal vinyl siding and has a side gable roof with wood shingles. It sits on a poured concrete foundation and hand-dug cellar. Cellar doors open along the west façade. The front porch has tongue and groove flooring and sits on a foundation of concrete block. There is a brick chimney along the east elevation. The house had running water, indoor

⁵⁹ Information was given in an unrecorded phone conversation between Charles Arnold and Anne Kidd on 19 March 2007.

plumbing and electricity when it was built. In the mid 1980s the kitchen was remodeled and a gable-roofed punch out was added to the west kitchen entrance. A white picket fence and flowerbeds enclose the yard. Concrete sidewalks connect the road, house, and accompanying buildings to each other.

Behind the house, built during the same time, sits a rectangular building used as a woodshed and washroom. It has a side gable roof with composite shingles and flared bargeboards. The building is covered in horizontal lap siding with vertical trim at the corners. It is painted white.

Adjacent to the woodshed/washroom building is the milkroom that was built at the time of the house. It has a gable roof with wood shingles, and is covered in horizontal lap siding painted white. It also has flared bargeboards and vertical trim. The building was constructed to house the cream separator.

There is a garage to the northwest of the house along the driveway. Charles Arnold and Glenn Lynch built the garage in the early 1950s. It has a gable roof with composite shingles on the north slope, and wood shingles on the south. This garage is covered in lap siding painted white with vertical trim at the corners. It sits on a board-formed concrete foundation and has a metal garage door on the west elevation.

Across the drive from this garage sits a larger garage with three openings on the north façade. Frederick Edward Arnold built this garage in the location of the original farmhouse. When the farmhouse was demolished, the materials were reused to construct this building. Its slate roof was purchased from Fort Casey and has been in place on the side gable roof since the building was constructed in 1935.⁶⁰ The garage is covered in wood shiplap siding painted white and sits on a board-formed concrete foundation. A crawl space and opening in the floor allows access to the underside of vehicles. A row of deciduous and coniferous trees runs north from the northwest corner of the garage. An additional row of eight poplars runs in a line between the driveway and the row of conifers and evergreens.

To the north of the poplars, on the west side of the drive, sits a granary and two silos. The granary is a 40' square

⁶⁰

Arnold oral interview, 00:37:50.

building of brick and concrete block and partially sits on the poured concrete slab foundation of an earlier granary. Its construction was a community effort in the late 1940s. Mr. Tesch and his son were the masons; Rance Zylstra installed the rafters, and Jack Sullivan sheathed and shingled the building.⁶¹ It has a pyramidal hipped roof with wood shingles and a central cupola. The building is painted white and has two doors constructed of horizontal wood shiplap siding that slide on metal tracks. On the south elevation the door opens onto a post and plank landing. Two round silos, used to store bulk grain, sit to the west of the granary. They each have a 44' circumference and are constructed of corrugated metal with standing seam metal roofs.

Across the drive from the granary is a chicken coop built in the mid 1940s. It has a front gable roof with wood shingles. It is covered in shiplap siding with vertical trim at the corners. The chicken coop is unpainted. It has three window openings on the south façade that are covered in chicken wire; a door opens to the driveway on the west façade.

To the south of the chicken coop is an outhouse. It has a wood-shingled shed roof that slopes to the north. The building is covered in shiplap siding that is unpainted and has vertical trim pieces on the corners. The foundation of the outhouse was built by the Work Progress Administration workers, and purchased by Frederick Edward Arnold in the 1930s.⁶²

To the south of the outhouse is a tool shed. It has a side gable roof with wood shingles. The building is covered in shiplap siding painted white with vertical trim at the corners. Charles Arnold and Billy and Sam Benson built this building in the early 1940s. The siding was purchased, but the rafters, studs, and floor joists were salvaged from the top two stories of the Benson Hotel in San de Fuca.⁶³

East of the chicken coop, outhouse, and tool shed, is an orchard of sixteen fruit trees. This orchard was begun by Alanson Arnold and contains pear, prune, and cherry trees.⁶⁴ It is enclosed by a picket fence to the south and a wire-and-post fence on the remaining three sides.

⁶¹ Charles Arnold Remembers, 99.

⁶² Arnold oral interview, 00:09:15.

⁶³ Charles Arnold Remembers, 103-104.

⁶⁴ Arnold oral interview, 00:39:50.

The barn sits to the east of the driveway, north of the other structures. To the east of the barn are the remains of a corral fence system. The corral was built for sheep in the late 1920s by Frederick Edward Arnold. It was later used by hogs and cattle.

To the north of the corral sits a gasoline and oil storage shed built by Vern Buehr. It was used to fuel the airplanes on the property.⁶⁵ It has a shed roof that slopes to the east. The shed is covered in unpainted vertical planks.

The concrete driveway ends in front of the barn, but a dirt path continues and branches in two directions. One branch leads north to access the remaining two buildings. A rectangular building with shed roof sits south of this dirt path. It currently houses a workshop, combine storage shed, and equipment storage and is built with heavy timber construction. The building is covered in a collection of plank siding and board and battens all painted red. The roof is covered in wood shingles. This building was originally constructed to serve as an airplane hangar just after the start of World War II. At this time, Vern Buehr leased the land and constructed a runway to give flying lessons to the locals.⁶⁶

Across the dirt path from the hangar sits a square metal building. In the early 1960s, after leasing land for their turkeys to graze, the Sherman family left lean-to shelters on the Arnold property. Charles Arnold dismantled the structures and used the materials to build this shed for his tractors.⁶⁷ It is pole construction with corrugated fiberglass cladding. This building has a shed roof that slopes to the north and is covered in corrugated metal.

The other branch of the dirt path runs west from the concrete drive. It's lined to the north by a hedgerow and a rock pile; this was built after many years of cleaning roads from the fields. The road runs west and leads to the adjoining crop fields.

III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

⁶⁵ Charles Arnold Remembers, 101.

⁶⁶ Ibid., 100.

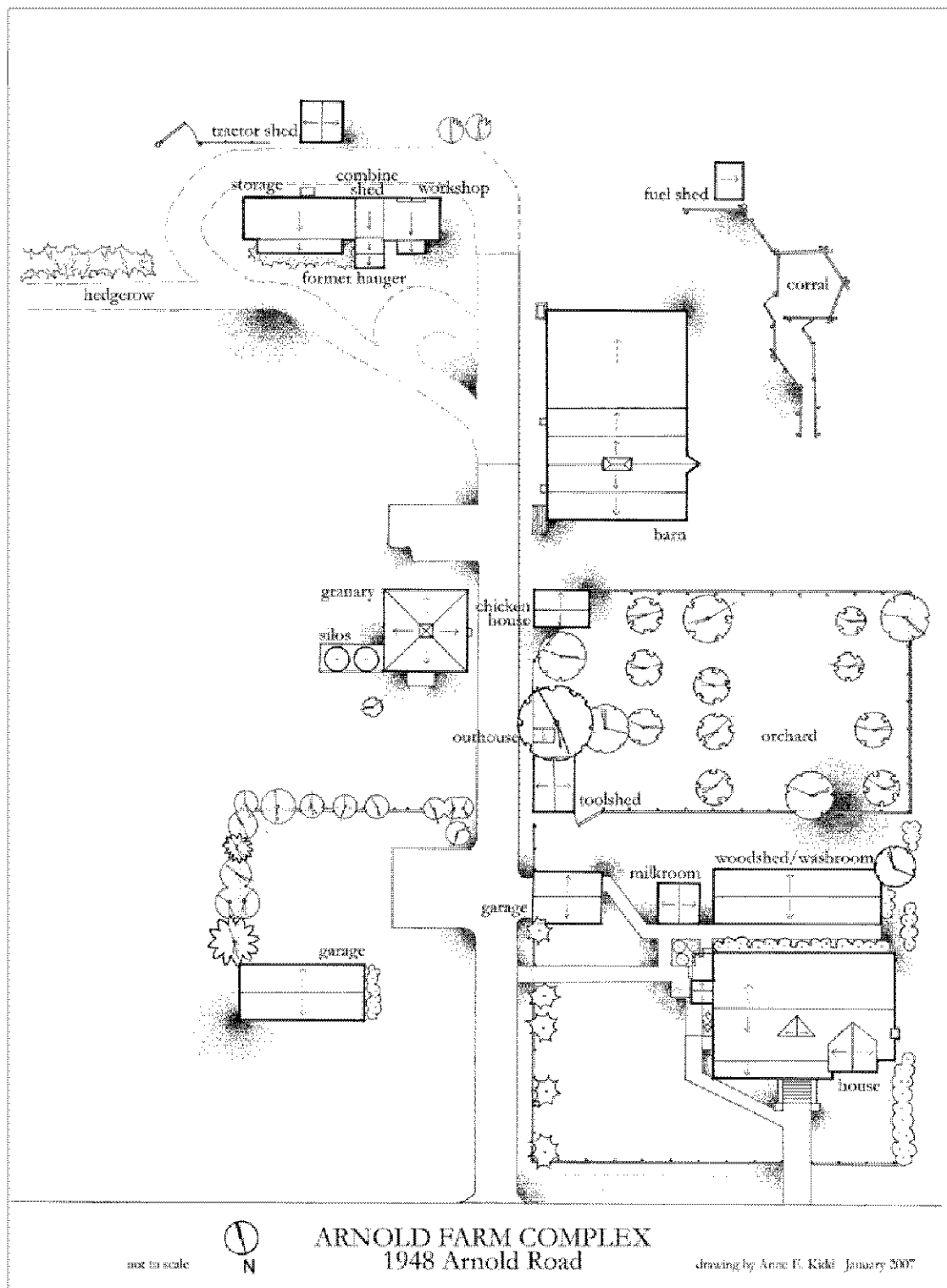
⁶⁷ Ibid., 101-102.

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IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Arnold property was documented by Anne E. Kidd, candidate for Master of Science in Historic Preservation at the University of Oregon, (Kingston Heath, Director) during the 2006 and 2007 school years. The project was executed as a terminal project under the guidance of Donald Peting, Professor Emeritus in Architecture at the University of Oregon; Hank Florence, National Park Service Historical Architect; Leland Roth, Professor of Art History at the University of Oregon; and Dan Powell, Professor of Art in Photography at the University of Oregon. The National Park Service and the Student Conservation Association sponsored the project. Anne E. Kidd performed the field recording, large format photography, and historical documentation. Karen L. Kidd assisted with the field recording. Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve and the community of Coupeville, Washington provided additional support and assistance.



Drawing 1: ARNOLD FARM SITE PLAN



Historic

Photograph 1: FAIRHAVEN DOCKED AT COUPEVILLE ca. 1900

(The ships came daily to Penn's Cove, stopping at docks in both San De Fuca and Coupeville.)

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 2: BINDER ON EBEY'S PRAIRIE 1920s

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 3: THRESHING GRAIN IN SAN DE FUCA, 1919

(This photograph illustrates the key parts in threshing, including: the team of horses pulling a wagon; the pitcher; the blower, chaff and straw; the puncher; and the sack sewer. Also of note, the spectators on the piles of grain sacks.)

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.